



GATEWAY DISTRICT OPTIMIST OF THE YEAR

The GATEway District will present a GATEway District Optimist of the Year award annually. The award will be named the Big John Ware Optimist of the Year award.

The award is designed to recognize excellence in Optimist service and leadership. In addition, the nominee shall have demonstrated personal demeanor that is in keeping with the philosophy of Optimist International and the GATEway District.

1. The nominee must be a member, in good standing, of an Optimist Club situated in the GATEway District.
2. The nominator must be a member, in good standing, of an Optimist Club situated in the GATEway District. The Nominator may be an Optimist Club, in good standing, situated in the GATEway District provided the nomination letter is signed by the current Club President. Nominator is limited to one (1) nomination per administrative year. The nomination must include the following information about the nominee:
 - a. Full name, mailing address and telephone number.
 - b. Club Name.
 - c. Club and District positions held, if any.
 - d. A brief composition (no more than 300 words) detailing why this person should receive the title as Big John Ware Optimist of the Year award.
 - e. Full name, mailing address, telephone number and Club name of the nominator.

If the nominator is an Optimist Club, this information pertains to the current Club President.

Unless requested, the nomination letter will be mailed to the nominee after the recipient has been named.

3. The GATEway District Candidate Qualifications Committee shall select the Big John Ware Optimist of the Year from nominations received. The Candidate Qualifications Committee shall be in charge of promotion and shall receive all nominations. The decision of the Candidate Qualifications Committee shall be final.
4. All nominations must be received by the Candidate Qualifications Committee by June 30.
5. The recipient of the Big John Ware Optimist of the Year will be announced at the District Convention during the Governor's banquet.
6. The recipient, in recognition of this award, will receive:
 - a. Big John Ware Optimist of the Year plaque proclaiming the name of the recipient, the year of the award, the current Governor, the current theme, and any other information pertinent to the award.
 - b. Reserved seating and complimentary dinner during the Governor's banquet for himself/herself and spouse/friend.
 - c. One night complimentary lodging at the hotel where the District Convention is held and recipient convention registration.
 - d. Recipients name shall be entered on the registry of GATEway District Optimist of the Year recipients printed annually in the District Directory.
 - e. Have his/her name and year of award affixed to the GATEway District Optimist of the Year banner.